

**Please amend claims 2, 3, 34-36, 38, 40-42 and 45 as follows:**

E1  
C1

2. (Twice Amended) A genetic construct which is capable of delaying, repressing or otherwise reducing the expression of a target gene in an animal cell, which is transfected with said genetic construct in the cell, wherein said genetic construct comprises at least two structural gene sequences, wherein each of said structural gene sequences comprises a nucleotide sequence which is substantially identical to said target gene, or a region or derivative of said target gene, and wherein said at least two structural gene sequences are placed operably under the control of a single promoter sequence which is operable in said cell, wherein at least one of said structural gene sequences is placed operably in the sense orientation under the control of said promoter sequence.

3. (Twice Amended) A genetic construct which is capable of delaying, repressing or otherwise reducing the expression of a target gene in an animal cell, which is transfected with said genetic construct in the cell, wherein said genetic construct comprises at least two structural gene sequences wherein each of said structural gene sequences is separately placed under the control of a promoter which is operable in said cell, and wherein each of said structural gene sequences comprises a nucleotide sequence which is substantially identical to said target gene, or a region or derivative of said target gene, wherein at least one of said structural gene sequences is placed operably in the sense orientation under the control of an individual promoter sequence.

C2  
E2

34. (Amended) A genetic construct which is capable of delaying, repressing or otherwise reducing the expression of a target gene in an animal cell which is transfected with said genetic construct in the cell, wherein said synthetic gene comprises at least two structural gene sequences, wherein each of said structural gene sequences comprises a nucleotide sequence which is substantially identical to said target gene, or a region or derivative of said target gene, and wherein said at least two structural gene sequences are placed operably under the control of a

single promoter sequence which is operable in said cell, wherein at least one of said structural gene sequences is placed operably in the sense orientation under the control of said promoter sequence and wherein at least one other of said structural gene sequences is placed operably in the antisense orientation under the control of said promoter sequence.

35. (Amended) A genetic construct which is capable of delaying, repressing or otherwise reducing the expression of a target gene in an animal cell which is transfected with said genetic construct in the cell, wherein said genetic construct comprises at least two structural gene sequences and each of said structural gene sequences is separately placed under the control of a promoter which is operable in said cell, and wherein each of said structural gene sequences comprises a nucleotide sequence which is substantially identical to said target gene, or a region or derivative of said target gene, wherein at least one of said structural gene sequences is placed operably in the sense orientation under the control of an individual promoter sequence, and wherein at least one other of said structural gene sequences is placed operably in the antisense orientation under the control of another individual promoter sequence.

36. (Amended) A genetic construct which is capable of delaying, repressing or otherwise reducing the expression of a target gene in an animal cell which is transfected with said genetic construct in the cell, wherein said genetic construct comprises at least two structural gene sequences, wherein each of said structural gene sequences comprises a nucleotide sequence which is substantially identical to said target gene, or a region or derivative of said target gene, and wherein said at least two structural gene sequences are placed operably under the control of a single promoter sequence which is operable in said cell, wherein at least one of said structural gene sequences is placed operably in the sense orientation under the control of said promoter sequence, wherein at least one other of said structural gene sequences is placed operably in the

38. (Amended) A cell comprising the genetic construct of any one of claims 2-3, 34-36 or 46.

41. (Amended) A method of delaying or repressing the expression of a target gene in an animal cell, comprising transfecting said animal cell with a genetic construct, wherein said genetic construct comprises at least two structural gene sequences, wherein each of said structural gene sequences comprises a nucleotide sequence which is substantially identical to the nucleotide sequence of said target gene, or a region or derivative of said target gene, and wherein said at least two structural gene sequences are placed operably under the control of a single promoter sequence which is operable in said cell, wherein at least one of said structural gene sequences is placed operably in the sense orientation under the control of said promoter sequence.

Cell E4  
Cubric Control

42. (Amended) The method according to claim 41, wherein at least one other of said structural gene sequences is placed operably in the antisense orientation under the control of said promoter sequence.

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ES  
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45. (Amended) A method of delaying or repressing the expression of a target gene in an animal cell, comprising expressing in said animal cell a genetic construct, wherein said genetic construct comprises at least two structural gene sequences, wherein each of said structural gene sequences is separately placed under the control of a promoter which is operable in said cell, and wherein each of said structural gene sequences comprises a nucleotide sequence which is substantially identical to said target gene, or a region or derivative of said target gene, wherein at least one of said structural gene sequences is placed operably in the sense orientation under the control of an individual promoter sequence.

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**Please add claims 46-49:**

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C6

46. A genetic construct comprising two structural gene sequences, wherein each of said structural gene sequences is identical to a target gene in an animal cell, and wherein the two structural gene sequences are placed operably under the control of a single promoter sequence which is operable in said cell, wherein one of said structural gene sequences is placed operably in the sense orientation under the control of said promoter sequence, wherein the other of said two structural gene sequences is placed operably in the antisense orientation under the control of said promoter sequence, and wherein the two structural sequences are spaced from each other by a nucleic acid stuffer fragment.

e

47. A method of delaying or repressing the expression of a target gene in an animal cell, comprising expressing in said animal cell a genetic construct, wherein said genetic construct comprises two structural gene sequences, wherein each of said structural gene sequences is